



U.S. Department of Justice
KENNETH L. WAINSTEIN
United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia

Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday September 28, 2005

For Information Contact Public Affairs
Channing Phillips (202) 514-6933
www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc/press/pressrel.html

Group home caregiver found guilty of assault of a vulnerable adult

Washington, D.C. - United States Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein and District of Columbia Inspector General Charles J. Willoughby announced that Alfreda Helen McKinley 48, was found guilty of assault of a vulnerable adult on September 27, 2005. McKinley was charged with hitting a vulnerable adult group home resident with a plastic bat at a home for mentally retarded individuals in Southeast, Washington, D.C. on November 29, 2003. After trial, Associate Judge Judith Retchin found McKinley guilty of the assault. McKinley was sentenced to a 60-day term of imprisonment (suspended), followed by a one-year period of supervised probation. McKinley was ordered to stay away from the victim, and the group home where he resides, and the defendant was ordered to report the conviction to present and prospective employers.

The OIG Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) investigated the assault. The MFCU, which was created in March 2000, handled this case as part of an effort called the Guardian Angel Project (GAP). GAP is a comprehensive program designed to deter and when appropriate, punish health care providers who intentionally abuse or neglect vulnerable persons under their care. Among the institutions covered by GAP are nursing homes, group homes for adults who are mentally retarded and facilities for mentally ill persons.

Page -2-

In announcing the conviction and sentence, United States Attorney Wainstein and Inspector General Willoughby praised the work of Special Agent Edward Heilman of the MFCU, who investigated the case. Mr. Wainstein and Mr. Willoughby also commended the work of Assistant United States Attorney Rhonda L. Campbell and Susan Kennedy, Director of the MFCU, who jointly prosecuted the case.

###